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further report has been called for from the Collector. The Headquarters Deputy Tahsildar conducted the enquiry at Mupparru village on 4th April 1948. As the allegations against the karnam were not proved no further action was taken on the petitions."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is not the Collector of a district competent to deal with such matters? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" It is a small thing about karnam and the Collector need not go to the village to deal with it."

Duty of sweepers in the City hospitals.

* 66 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Sri P. R. K. Sarma) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many beds or patients are served by a sweeper for day and night shifts in the following hospitals, viz., the Rayapuram Hospital, General Hospital, Tuberculosis Hospital, Royapetta and Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram;

(*b*) how many calls a sweeper has to attend to ordinarily;

(*c*) what the hours of work and duration of shift of the sweepers and the sanitary staff in the said institutions are;

(*d*) whether they get regularly a weekly off-day; and

(*e*) whether any representations have been received from the men through department or otherwise for enhancing the staff suitably?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) In the Government General Hospital, Madras, one sweeper is allotted to each ward, one by day and one by night and they are changed every week. In the other three hospitals the sweepers do not serve the patients; they attend to the general cleanliness of the hospital buildings and premises.

" (*b*) In the General Hospital, patients confined to bed and operated cases only require their services and it is not possible to specify the actual number of calls each sweeper has to attend to. In the other three institutions they do not attend to any calls.

" (*c*) In the General Hospital, day duty consists of 11 hours with one hour interval and night duty 13 hours with two hours interval. By night, the men go to sleep except when they are required by patients. In the Tuberculosis Hospital, Madras, the hours of work are from 7-30 a.m. to 12 noon and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram, from 7 a.m. to 12 noon and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and in the Stanley Hospital, Madras, from 6-30 a.m. to 5 p.m. In the latter three institutions there is no night duty. The sanitary staff in these institutions consists of Health Inspectors, peons, toties, lascars and gardeners according to the needs of each institution requiring their services.

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" (*d*) No weekly holidays are given. One day off in a fortnight is given in the General Hospital.

" (*e*) Representations have been received in the case of the Madras Government General Hospital staff. No representations have been received from the staff in the other three institutions."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Cannot the same system obtain in all hospitals whether it is Tuberculosis Hospital, or a General Hospital? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is some difference between the hospitals."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know whether any extra allowance is paid for night duties? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No extra wage is paid, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" What is to be done by patients, who want night attendance? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" When they are required they are called, otherwise the nurses or nursing orderlies will attend on them."

Supply of a list of named persons to Mercantile firms.

* 67 *Q*.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Commissioner of Police received in 1947–48 any request from Mercantile firms in Madras City, to investigate the character of named persons;

(*b*) if so, (i) the number of such requests in 1947–48, (ii) the names of the firms which made the requests and (iii) the number of such cases investigated by the City Police in 1947–48;

(*c*) (i) whether the result of the investigations were communicated to the Mercantile firms and (ii) whether the Mercantile firms used the result of the Police investigation, for selecting candidates for employment in the service of the firms;

(*d*) how long the Police have been doing this service for the firms; and

(*e*) whether the Commissioner of Police charged any fee for the service rendered?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) (i) One.

(ii) Messrs. Uberoi, Limited.

(iii) The reference from the firm was returned in original for want of full address of the person named and consequently no investigation was made.

" (*c*) to (*e*) Do not arise."